

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BILL TASH**, on March 5, 2003 at 3:06 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Bill Tash, Chairman (R)
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Sherm Anderson (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Bea McCarthy (D)
Sen. Dan McGee (R)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Glenn Roush (D)
Sen. Debbie Shea (D)
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch
Roberta Opel, Committee Secretary

Video-Taped Committees: This is the video log of a committee hearing. The log provides a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 437, 3/2/2003, HB 303, 3/2/2003,
HB 436, 3/2/2003
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 437

Opening Statement by Sponsor: REP. ALAN OLSON, HD 8, Roundup, presented HB 437; an act generally revising laws governing the environment.

Proponents' Testimony:

3:08pm Leo Berry, representing Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA) **EXHIBIT (nas46a01)** and **EXHIBIT (nas46a02)**
 3:19pm Jerry Driscoll, representing MT. AFL-CIO
 3:20pm Ellen Engstedt, representing MT. Wood Products Association
 3:21pm Don Serba, Pulp Paper grassroots organization
 3:22pm John Forkin, MT. State Building and Construction Assoc.
 3:25pm Bob Pavlovich, IBEW-223
 3:26pm Leif Griffin, Smurfit-Stone Container
 3:26pm John Youngberg, MT. Farm Bureau
 3:28pm Bob Gilbert, MT. Petroleum Marketers and C-Store Assoc.
 3:29pm Ken Losh, Stone Container, Missoula
 3:30pm Cary Hegreberg, MT. Contractors' Association
 3:31pm Spook Stang, MT. Motor Carriers Association
 3:32pm John Forkan, MT. Building Trades
 3:33pm Gail Abercrombie, MT. Petroleum Association
 3:34pm Webb Brown, MT. Chamber of Commerce
 3:34pm Peggy Trenk, MT. Association of Realtors
 3:35pm Jerome Anderson, Encore Acquisition
 3:35pm Jim Mockler, MT. Coal Council
 3:37pm Ted Natinoli, Missoula Mining Association
 3:39pm Cory Swanson, Plum Creek Timber Company
 3:40pm Ray Coniff, Missoula
 3:41pm Willy Heffin, MT. Oil and Gas Producers
 3:41pm Patrick Montalban, representing gas producers

Opponents' Testimony:

3:43pm Tamara Tragakiss, on behalf of Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC) **EXHIBIT (nas46a03)** EXHIBIT 3a
 3:46pm Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC) **EXHIBIT (nas46a04)** **EXHIBIT (nas46a05)** EXHIBIT 5a
 3:51pm Matt Klifford, representing Clark Fork Coalition
 4:00pm Don Judge, on behalf of the Montana Sierra Club
 4:07pm Wade Sikorski, representing himself **EXHIBIT (nas46a06)**
 4:10pm Arleen Boyd, Stillwater Protective Assoc. **EXHIBIT (nas46a07)**
 4:16pm Brenda Hall, Tongue River Water User's Association
 4:17pm Lynn Fairbanks, representing herself

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

4:17pm Begin
4:53pm End
36 min Elapsed time

Closing by Sponsor:

4:54pm **REP. OLSON** closed the hearing on HB 437.

HEARING ON HB 303

Opening Statement by Sponsor: **REP. ALAN OLSON, HD 8, Roundup,** opened the hearing on HB 303; an act modifying the definition of "facility" under the Montana Major Facility Siting Act as it relates to transmission lines.

Proponents' Testimony:

5:01pm Bob Pavlovich, IBEW-233
5:02pm Jim Mockler, MT. Coal Council
5:03pm Steve Wade, Great Northern Properties
5:03pm Cary Hegreberg, MT. Contractors' Association
5:04pm Don Allen, WETA

Opponents' Testimony:

5:05pm Michele Reinhart, NPRC **EXHIBIT (nas46a08)**
5:10pm Patrick Judge, MEIC **EXHIBIT (nas46a09)** and submitted written testimony on behalf of Renewable Northwest Project
EXHIBIT (nas46a10)
5:13pm Wade Sikorski, representing himself

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

5:15pm Begin
5:26pm End
11 min Elapsed time

Closing by Sponsor:

5:28pm **REP. OLSON** closed the hearing on HB 303.

HEARING ON HB 436

Opening by Sponsor: **REP. ALAN OLSON, HD 8, Roundup,** presented HB 436; an act eliminating compliance with the Montana Environmental

Policy Act for state land leases that are subject to further permitting requirements.

Proponents' Testimony:

5:30pm Gail Abercrombie, MT. Petroleum Association
5:31pm Patrick Montalban, Northern MT. Oil and Gas Association
5:32pm Steve Wade, representing Great Northern Properties
5:34pm Jim Mockler, MT. Coal Council
5:35pm Willie Heffin, MT. Oil and Gas Producers
5:35pm Cary Hegreberg, MT. Contractors' Association
5:36pm Don Allen, (WETA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Witnesses and Testimony:

5:37pm Monte Mason, Bureau Chief, Minerals Management Bureau, MT.
Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

5:37pm Begin
5:43pm End
6 min Elapsed time

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:05 P.M.

SEN. BILL TASH, Chairman

ROBERTA OPEL, Secretary

BT/RO

EXHIBIT (nas46aad)